Dear Hoyas,

Earlier this month, I had the incredible pleasure of meeting the Class of 2029—the largest, most academically accomplished, and most geographically complex world-changing new adventurers, like medical education, can be daunting, but we have the global forces to learn from those around us. At the heart of this issue, we have the wisdom of our Georgetown President, Professor Anthony S. Fauci, himself a lifelong learner. Dr. Fauci shared his journey and this message:

"You will be guided by integrity, unselfishness, perseverance, inquisitiveness, professionalism, and . . . a compelling thirst for knowledge with the patients I repeat, the patient, as the focus and beneficiary of all that you do professionally."

Dr. Fauci joined Georgetown in 2023 and while he's known for his decades of public service and expertise in public health, he remains dedicated to patient care. On most mornings, he can be found rounding in the hospital teaching—and learning from our students, residents, and faculty members. Medical education is essential to the success of our medical students, and we are deeply grateful to the many alumni who have generously shared their time and wisdom, and to those who supplemented this year's incoming class through either scholarships.

If you've visited our new School of Medicine website lately you might have noticed a change—we've grown! Our prestigious Biomedical Graduate Education program became a part of the School of Medicine this summer. BGE, which consists of an Ph.D., 15 M.S., and four certificate programs, graduates about 400 students each year. This union allows us to expand the coordination between education and research and in the future, offer more dual MD/MS degrees.

Our School of Medicine is also home to some of our most inspiring research. In the coming weeks/months, you can read about "The Resident Brain," a story about rapid advances being made in stroke research allowing the possibility of one return to function for the 795,000 people in the U.S. who have a stroke each year.

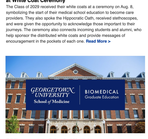
We depend on philanthropy to support both our research and education mission. Some of our generous donors support scholarships and others find other meaningful ways to contribute, like Carol Ann Wood, whose generous gift funded the mentorship and opportunity in student spaces, improving both the appearance and functionality. Student spaces are critical to student success and are emblazoned in the memories of generations of students and their families. We are fortunate to have two of the new process with our self-study. While it is a required activity for re-accreditation, what we learn can reshape and refine medical education at Georgetown.

I look forward to my second year here in my role as Executive Dean of the School of Medicine and remain grateful for your ongoing support and encouragement.

Hoya Saxa,

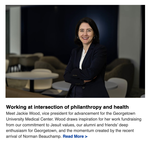
Norman J. Beauchamp, Jr., MD, MHS
Executive Vice President for Health Sciences
Executive Dean, School of Medicine

SPOTLIGHT



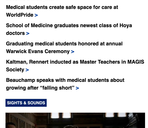
Georgetown welcomes School of Medicine Class of 2029 at White Coat Ceremony

The Class of 2029 received their white coats at a ceremony on Aug. 8, symbolizing the start of their medical education by become caring providers. They also spoke the Hippocratic Oath, received stethoscopes, and heard from Georgetown University President Professor Anthony S. Fauci on the journey. The ceremony also connects incoming students and alumni, who help sponsor the distributed white coats and provide messages of encouragement in the pockets of each one. **Read More >**



BGE's move into School of Medicine expands opportunities for students, programs

Biomedical Graduate Education joined the School of Medicine on July 1. This union allows us to expand the coordination between education and research in the future, and offer more dual M.D./M.S. degrees. **Read More >**



Working at intersection of philanthropy and health

Head Jackie Wood, vice president for advancement for the Georgetown University Medical Center, Wood draws inspiration for her work fundraising for the medical center from her family's experiences with the medical profession and the humanism created by the recent arrival of Norman Beauchamp. **Read More >**

CAMPUS NEWS

Meet the 2025 Bellringer Fellows >

Medical student organizes annual pickleball tournament to raise funds for melanoma research >

He's going to medical school this fall-but first, he'll become a firefighter >

Medical students create safe space for care at WorkPride >

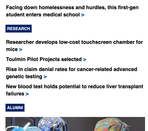
School of Medicine graduates newest class of Hoya doctors >

Graduating medical students honored at annual Warwick Evans Ceremony >

Kaltman, Rennert included as Master Teachers in MAGIS Society >

Beauchamp speaks with medical students about growing after "falling short" >

RIGHTS & SOUNDS



Video highlights from the Class of 2029 White Coat Ceremony >

Facing down homelessness and hurdles, this first-gen student enters medical school >

RESEARCH

Researcher develops low-cost touchscreen chamber for mice >

Toulmin Pilot Projects selected >

Rise in claim denial rates for cancer-related advanced genetic testing >

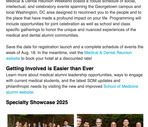
New blood test holds potential to reduce liver transplant failures >

ALUMNI

School of Medicine students seek out international clinical experience

Recent graduates Evan Ciulada (M'23) and Carlynn Winters (M'23) pursued international experience in the interim before their residency training. Ciulada spent a year in Kenya, where he worked in a clinic through the Universidad del Sabayo, while Winters volunteered with her father in Chogoria, Kenya, in the orthopedic clinic at the region's largest hospital, PCEA Chogoria Hospital.

GEORGETOWN HEALTH, SUMMER 2025



The Summer 2025 edition of Georgetown Health Magazine is now available! Spaces of Care, the theme of this issue, explores how the spaces in healthcare to the community, read a tribute to Donald W. Kaufman, whose inspired teaching prompted the creation of a "Golden Orchard," read alumnus Robert Fair (G'49, M'49), and more.

ALUMNI PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Medical & Dental Reunion 2025: Nov. 7 - 9

Join us as we celebrate and reunite Classes of 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2020, and all Hoya alumni from the School of Medicine.

In recognition of a shared campus and professional calling to live out the spirit of cura personalis, this year's reunion welcomes dental alumni who will be celebrating the School of Dentistry's legacy of 99 years of academic excellence.

Medical & Dental Reunion Weekend boasts a robust schedule of social, intellectual, and celebratory events spanning the Georgetown campus and Near Washington, DC area designed to reconnect you to the people and to the place that have made a profound impact on your life. Programming will include opportunities to connect with classmates as well as school and class specific gatherings to honor the unique and nuanced experiences of the medical and dental alumni communities.

Save the date for registration launch and a complete schedule of events the week of Aug. 25. Visit the Medical & Dental Reunion & Dental Reunion website to join, and have a a discounted rate!

Getting Involved is Easier than Ever

Learn more about medical alumni leadership opportunities, ways to engage with current medical students, and the latest SOM updates and philanthropic needs by visiting the new and improved School of Medicine alumni website.

Specialty Showcases 2025

On April 29, the Georgetown University Alumni Association and the Medical Alumni Board welcomed 100 first through third-year medical students and over 50 School of Medicine alumni, faculty, MedStar residents and attendings across 31 specialties. Students were thrilled with the opportunity to connect with alumni and mentors in Washington, DC, MD, and PA, to experience in-person medicine and Hoya Saxa.

We look forward to next year's Specialty Showcase on Tuesday, April 28 2026 and invite you to share your experiential wisdom with the next generation of Georgetown physicians!

CURA Program

The Connecting and Uniting Residents and Alumni program launched this Spring and successfully matched 56 School of Medicine M.D. graduates with alumni in their area of Residency. This year-long mentorship provides recent graduates with an additional support system and keeps them connected to the Hoya family.

John Carroll Weekend

In early April, alumni, university leaders, renowned faculty, and friends of the university attended John Carroll Weekend in Philadelphia.

One of the weekend's highlights included a fireside chat and luncheon with Anthony S. Fauci, M.D. (HON'80), Georgetown University Professor in the School of Medicine and the McCourt School of Public Policy, and Norman J. Beauchamp, Jr., M.D., Executive Vice President for Health Sciences and Executive Dean, Georgetown University Medical Center and executive dean of the School of Medicine.

During their conversation, Fauci shared transformational career highlights and lessons from his 54-year career at the NIH, where his work has included his service to public health throughout the HIV/AIDS epidemic and COVID-19 pandemic. Fauci and Beauchamp both shared personal convictions about the unique and powerful nature of a Jesuit education in today's world—one in great need of hope.

We hope to see many more of our medical alumni in Puerto Rico for John Carroll Weekend 2026 from April 16-18!

GUAA Partner Programming

Welcome to the Neighborhood | Georgetown | Thursday, Sept 4
As a Georgetown graduate, you're in a family of over 200,000 alums. Whether you recently graduated, just moved to a new city, or want to make some new Hoya friends, we hope you'll reunite with your local alumni club for Welcome to the Neighborhood.

In Memoriam
Donald W. Knowlen, M.D., MACP (1929–2020)
Donald W. Knowlen (F'55), W'52, HON'06), professor emeritus of medicine, was recently honored in the Summer 2025 issue of Georgetown Health.

Knowlen, who had made his 51-foot-tall Christmas tree above all else, joined the faculty in 1960. He was the recipient of numerous awards for his teaching style that it necessitated the Golden Orchard designation. He gave the yearly Pellegrino Lecture from 2000-2017, and also inspired the creation of the Donald W. Knowlen, M.D. Scholarship and the Donald W. Knowlen, M.D. Award, given to a graduating medical student.

Owen W. Rennert, M.D. (1938 – 2020)
With great sadness, the Georgetown Clinical Society announces the death of Owen Rennert, Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, Georgetown University School of Medicine 1968-1986, Professor Emeritus 1986 – 2000, Scientific Director of NICHD/NIH 2000-2009.

Rennert was a luminary in genetics and known for his inspirational leadership to generations of residents, pediatricians, and investigators. He obtained his M.D. in 1961 and took residency at the University of Chicago, where he also received an M.S. in biochemistry. He joined NIH in 1964 as a research/clinical fellow, where he returned in 1968 and was recruited to the chair of Pediatrics. His research interests included inborborn errors, biochemical genetics, especially in the mucopolysaccharidoses, glycogen storage diseases, and polyamines, and was a pioneer in pediatric genetics and the therapeutic genetics of enzyme deficiencies. His laboratory later work focused on induced pluripotent stem cell models for the study of inherited disorders associated clinically with autism spectrum disorder.

Rennert was predeceased by his wife, Sandra, within the same year, and his son, Ian, while a student at Harvard. He is survived by his two daughters, including Rachel, who attended the Georgetown University School of Medicine and is a pediatrician in Bethesda.

Options to share in Memorium information or Class Notes updates can be found here.

Follow Us

Now you can follow Georgetown School of Medicine alumni on LinkedIn! Check out our page and join the medical alumni group to stay in touch with classmates. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

Upcoming Events

Sept. 4
Welcome to the Neighborhood

Oct. 24-25
Bellringer 2025

Nov. 7-9
Medical & Dental Reunion 2025

March 19-21, 2026
2026 Georgetown University Women's Forum

April 16-18, 2026
John Carroll Weekend: Puerto Rico